



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 155
- Seattle, WA 98101-3123

SUPERFUND &
EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT DIVISION

OCT 011019

SENT VIA UPS

Paramjit Hothi, Governor
Spokane Recycling Company LLC
3548 Piper Avenue
Burnaby, British Columbia V5A 3A9
Canada

Re: Request for Information Pursuant to Section 104 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act for the Kaiser Mead Aluminum Site, Mead, Spokane County, Washington

Dear Mr. Hothi:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 (EPA) is conducting response activities and has and will continue to incur costs in response to a release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants at Kaiser Mead Aluminum Site in Mead, Spokane County, Washington (the Site). EPA is investigating the identification, nature and quantity of materials that have been or are generated, treated, stored or disposed of at, or transported to, the Site and the nature or extent of a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant at or from the Site. EPA also is seeking information relating to the ability of entities to pay for the cleanup of the Site.

Pursuant to the authority of Section 104 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. § 9604, you are hereby requested to respond to the Information Request set forth in Attachment A, attached hereto.

Compliance with the Information Request set forth in Attachment A is mandatory. Failure to respond fully and truthfully to the Information Request within 21 calendar days of receipt of this letter, or adequately to justify such failure to respond, can result in enforcement action by EPA pursuant to Section 104(e) of CERCLA. This statute permits EPA to seek the imposition of penalties of up to \$57,317 for each day of continued non-compliance. Please be further advised that provision of false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or representations may subject you to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

This Information Request is not subject to the approval requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. §§ 3501, *et seq.*

Your response to this Information Request should be mailed *to*:

Brooks Stanfield, On-Scene Coordinator
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 Sixth Ave., Suite 155
Mail Stop: 13-107
Seattle, Washington 98101

Due to the legal ramifications of your failure to respond properly, EPA strongly encourages you to give this matter your immediate attention and to respond to this Information Request within the time specified above. If you have any legal or technical questions relating to this Information Request, you may consult with the EPA prior to the time specified above. Please direct legal questions to Kris Leefer of the Office of Regional Counsel at 206-553-1532 or leefer.kristin@epa.gov. Technical questions should be directed to Brooks Stanfield, at the above address, or at 206-553-4423 or stanfield.brooks@epa.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,



Beth Sheldrake, Acting Branch Chief
Emergency Management Branch
Superfund and Emergency Management Division

Attachment

U.S. EPA

CERCLA SECTION 104(e)

INFORMATION REQUEST

Respondent: Spokane Recycling Company, LLC

Site: Kaiser Mead Aluminum Site

Spokane County Parcels: 36165.9016 and 36096.9063- **36165.9016 This is the only parcel we own**

Date: First involvement at the Site to present

Please note: this Information Request includes instructions for responding to this request and definitions of words such as "Respondent," ~~Site~~ and "identify" used in the questions.

INFORMATION REQUEST QUESTIONS

The request identifies the site by two tax parcels, Spokane County Parcels 36165.9016 and 36096.9063. Parcel No. 36165.9016 pertains to the property owned by Spokane Recycling Company, LLC ("Spokane Recycling") at 2111 E. Hawthorne Road, Spokane, Washington 99217.

Spokane Recycling has never had any association with Parcel No. 36096.9063.

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1. Respondent Information

a. Provide the full legal name and mailing address of the Respondent.

Spokane Recycling Company LLC

3548 Piper Avenue

Burnaby, British Columbia V5A 3A9

a- Canada

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b. For each person answering these questions on behalf of Respondent, provide:

4i. full name;

Paramjit Hothi; Gurdaver Hothi; and; Harnek Hothi

~~4~~ii. title;

Members and principals in ~~Owner of Spokane Recycling Co. LLC.~~

144iii business address; and ~~former Kaiser Aluminum Site at~~

2111 E. Hawthorne Road, Spokane, WA 99217

144iv. business telephone number and FAX machine number.

Phone: Cell: 604-715-5056.

Fax: ~~None~~ No fax number.

c. If Respondent wishes to designate an individual for all future correspondence concerning this Site, please indicate here by providing that individual's name, address, telephone number, and fax number. ~~no~~

N/A

d. State the dates during which Respondent held any property interests, including holding a lease or rental agreement, at the Site.

e.
October 2014 – Present

Spokane Recycling The property was purchased in October 2014

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The property has been rented out as follows:

~~Tenant: Go 2 Z LLC.~~

~~October-December 2015~~

~~March 2016-March 2016~~

~~January 2017-December 2017~~

~~January 2018-December 2018~~

~~Tenant: PODS Inc.~~

~~September 1, 2019—to present date.~~

e-f. State the dates during which Respondent conducted any business activity, including activity on behalf of others whether or not pursuant to a contract, at the Site.

~~Only as stated above.~~

Spokane Recycling purchased in October 2014. Other than serving as the property owner and landlord, Spokane Recycling has conducted any business activities at the Site.

Since October 2014, Spokane Recycling has rented out portions of the Site as follows:

Tenant: Go 2 Z LLC.

October-December 2015
March 2016-March 2016
January 2017 – December 2017
January 2018 – December 2018

Tenant: PODS Inc.
September 1, 2019 – to present date.

Tenant: Mountain Fabricators LLC
~~DATE~~ July 2017 – to present date.

Describe the nature of Respondent's business activities at the Site.

Spokane Recycling purchased in October 2014. Other than serving as the property owner and landlord, Spokane Recycling has conducted any business activities at the Site. To the best of Spokane Recycling's knowledge, tenants at the property have conducted the following activities:

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Tenant: Go 2 Z LLC. – Site used for conducting filming on the Site

Tenant: PODS Inc. – Site used for storage

Tenant: Mountain Fabricators LLC – Fabricate steel beams for industrial usage.

e.g.

h. In relation to your answer to the previous question, identify all materials used or created by your activities at the Site, including raw materials, commercial products, building debris, and other wastes.

i.
None. I

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Spokane Recycling was not involved in the tenants' activities and is process so am is unaware of materials used or created what was used by such tenant activities at the Site.

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e-j. If Respondent, its parent corporation, subsidiaries or other related or associated companies have filed for bankruptcy, provide: not applicable

1. the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in which the petition was filed;
- 11 the docket numbers of such petition;
- 111 the date the bankruptcy petition was filed;
- iv. whether the petition is under Chapter 7 (liquidation), Chapter 11 (reorganization), or other provision; and
- v. a brief description of the current status of the petition.

N/A. Spokane Recycling has not filed for bankruptcy.

i. i. Identify Respondent's policy with respect to document retention.

Most documents are hard copy and some are .pdf documents. These are in files and retained for years.

2. Site Activities and Interests

a. Provide all documents in your possession regarding the ownership or environmental conditions of the Site, including, but not limited to, copies of deeds, easements, rights-of-way, sales contracts, leases, blueprints, ~~the~~ built¹ and photographs. Environmental conditions of the Site includes information related to soil, sediment, water (ground and surface), and air quality, such as, but not limited to: ATTACHMENTS (These should include any documents received from Ecology and EPA and from Aspect.

1. Any spill, leak, release, or discharge of a hazardous substance, waste, or material at or near the Site; ~~none~~
- 11 Occurrences of violations, citations, deficiencies, and/or accidents concerning the Site; ~~none~~
- m. Remediation or removal of contaminated soils, sediments, or other media at the Site; and ~~none~~
- 1v. Investigations, inspections, sampling, and reports generated by Respondent and/or others regarding the Site and surrounding area.

Department of Ecology —did testings on the site regarding the Alumina Piles Waste on the site. Andy Maher (anma461@ecy.wa.gov)
EPA did testing on site

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- b. Provide information on the condition of the Site when purchased or at the beginning of the time period of Respondent's activities at the Site; describe the source, volume, and content of any fill material used during any construction activities. Additionally, describe any subsequent improvements, alterations, demolitions, or additions to the physical structures or the Site itself. **The site was purchased in the condition it is in at the moment. No alterations to the physical structures have been made. Nothing has moved or been taken away from the site.**
- c. Provide a brief summary of the activities conducted at the Site while under Respondent's ownership or operation. **We have Spokane Recycling has not done any activities ourselves. Power was disconnected and has now been reconnected. Construction of hydro electric pipes were installed on January/February 2018. water lines?? We have only rented out the property--**
- d. Provide all documents pertaining to sale, transfer, delivery, or disposal, of any hazardous substances, scrap materials, and/or recyclable materials to or from this property. **This has not be done and therefore we have no documentation.**
- e. Provide any site drainage descriptions, plans or maps that include information about storm drainage which includes, but is not limited to, above or below surface piping, ditches, catch basins, manholes, and treatment/detention or related structures including outfalls. If available, also include information about connections to sanitary sewer. **We are in the process of getting the Stormwater protection plan completed. We have had a lot of difficulty with hiring someone to take this one. We can still in the process of getting this done.**
- f. With respect to past site activities, please provide copies of any stormwater or drainage studies, including data from sampling, conducted at the Site. Also provide copies of any Stormwater Pollution Prevention, Maintenance Plans, Spill Plans, and any stormwater, process water, or any other discharge permits that may have been developed or obtained for different operations during the Respondent's ownership of or operations at the property. **ATTACHMENT -Devinder, what is this attachment?**

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3. **Information About Others**

- a. Describe any business relationship you may have had regarding this property or operations thereon with any entities, including contracts for construction, remodeling, or demolition. **We have not been able do anything on the site because we do not have water on the site. We have reconnected to power and tested one of the wells??**
- b. Provide the names and last known address of any tenants or lessees, the dates of their tenancy and a brief description of the activities they conducted while occupying the Site. **Go2 Z 5, LLC:- Pete Moroz, 906 W. Broadway Ave, Spokane, WA 99201. Filming on site.**

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Mountain Fabricators LLC; Paul Jokkel, PO Box 6459, Spokane, WA. Fabricate steel beams for industrial usage

PODS Interprises LLC; Daniel Knafo, 13535 Feather Sand Drive, Clearwater, FL 33762. Site used for storage.

- c. If not already provided, identify and provide a last known address or phone number for all persons, including Respondent's current and former employees or agents, other than attorneys, who have knowledge or information about the generation, use, purchase, storage, disposal, placement, or other handling of hazardous materials at, or transportation of hazardous materials to or from, the Site. **We have not handled any materials to or from the site. Identify the previous owners back to Former owner: Kaiser. Last known contact we have is with Whiff Collins and Bob Burke. Contact infor for Whiff, Senior Managing Director, Direct: 925-627-2898, Mobile: 925-998-1017 Fax: 925-627-2899 whiff.collins@cushwake.com**

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4. **Financial Information**

- a. Provide true and complete copies of all federal income tax documents, including all supporting schedules, for 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018. Provide the federal Tax Identification Number. If documentation is not available, fill out the enclosed IRS Form 8821 to provide EPA with direct access to this documentation from the U.S. Internal

Revenue Service. Do you have a response?

Spokane Recycling' federal tax identification number is (b) (4)

Please note that we would like to designate this financial documentation as Confidential Business Information (CBI).

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- b. Complete the enclosed EPA Financial Statement for Businesses Form or provide an audited financial statement that contains all of the information requested in the form. Will this be done?
- c. Provide the Respondent's financial interest in, control of, or that the Respondent is a beneficiary of any assets (in the U.S. or in another country) that have not been identified in your federal tax returns or other financial information to be presented to EPA. If there are such assets, identify each asset by type of asset, estimated value, and location.
- d. Provide a full copy of the Respondent's asset depreciation schedule for the most recent fiscal year.

450 John Deere 2008. Purchased in 2016 for \$52,000. Depreciation value today \$40,000

1993 Kenworth Semi Tractor. Purchased in 2015 for \$7,500. Depreciation value today \$5,000

Provide copies of the Respondent's five most recent years of audited financial statements, including auditor's opinion, balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows and supporting notes and schedules. If audited statements are not available, please submit unaudited financial statements, including balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows and supporting notes and schedules.

ATTACHMENT - Please note that we would like to designate this financial documentation as Confidential Business Information (CBI).

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- e.
- f. Provide the Respondent's financial statements for current year to date and the prior year to date (the same period one year ago), including balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows, and pro forma statement. ATTACHMENT - Please note that we would like to designate this financial documentation as Confidential Business Information (CBI).

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Provide copies of monthly bank statements for all accounts held by or for the benefit of the Respondent that were open or maintained a balance for the last twelve-month period. ATTACHMENT - Please note that we would like to designate this financial documentation as Confidential Business Information (CBI).

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- g.
- h. If Respondent is, or was at any time, a subsidiary of, otherwise owned or controlled by,

or otherwise affiliated with another corporation or entity, then describe the full nature of each such corporate relationship, including but not limited to: **Not applicable**

- i. a general statement of the nature of relationship, indicating whether or not the affiliated entity had, or exercised, any degree of control over the daily operations or decision-making of the Respondent's activities at the Site;
- ii. the dates such relationship existed;
- iii. the percentage of ownership of Respondent that is held by such other entity(ies);
- iv. for each such affiliated entity provide the names and complete addresses of its parent, subsidiary, and otherwise affiliated entities, as well as the names and addresses of each such affiliated entity's officers, directors, partners, trustees, beneficiaries, and/or shareholders owning more than five percent of that affiliated entity's stock;

- v. provide any and all insurance policies for such affiliated entity(ies) which may possibly cover the liabilities of the Respondent at the Site; and
- vt. provide any and all corporate financial information of such affiliated entities, including but not limited to total revenue or total sales, net income, depreciation, total assets and total current assets, total liabilities and total current liabilities, net working capital (or net current assets), and net worth.

1. Provide any additional information which may be relevant in evaluating the Respondent's ability to pay for cleanup actions at the Site. ~~I Spokane Recycling is have provided all my Bank statements and as can be seen, this site is not generating money. I am Spokane Recycling is actually losing money because I have it has not been able to do anything with this site because we do not have water on this site. The state of the site is as it was purchased this in October 2014.~~

5. Insurance Coverage

- a. Provide copies of all property, casualty and/or liability insurance policies, and any other insurance contracts referencing the Site and/or Respondent's business operations (including, but not limited to, Comprehensive General Liability, Environmental Impairment Liability, Pollution Legal Liability, Cleanup Cost Cap or Stop Loss Policies). Include, without limitation, all primary, excess, and umbrella policies which could be applicable to costs of environmental investigation and/or cleanup, and include the years such policies were in effect. **We have no insurance coverage.**
- b. If there are any such policies from question "5a" above which existed, but for which copies are not available, identify each such policy by providing as much of the following information as possible: **not applicable.**
 - i. the name and address of each insurer and of the insured;
 - ii. the type of policy and policy numbers;
 - iii. the per occurrence policy limits of each policy; and
 - iv. the effective dates for each policy.
- c. Identify all insurance brokers or agents who placed insurance for the Respondent at any time during the period being investigated, as identified at the beginning of this request, and identify the time period during which such broker or agent acted in this regard.
- d. Identify all communication and provide all documents that evidence, refer, or relate to claims made by or on behalf of the Respondent under any insurance policy in connection with the Site. Include any responses from the insurer with respect to any claims.

- e. Identify any previous settlements with any insurer in connection with the Site, or for any claims for environmental liabilities during the time period under investigation. Include any policies surrendered or cancelled by the Respondent or insurer.

- f. Identify any and all insurance, accounts paid or accounting files that identify Respondent's insurance policies.

6. Compliance with This Request

- a. Describe all sources reviewed or consulted in responding to this request, including, but not limited to:

- i. the name and current job title of all individuals consulted;
Paramjit Hothi, owner operator of Spokane Recycling Co. LLC
Gurdaver Hothi, owner operator of Spokane Recycling Co. LLC
Harnek Hothi, owner operator of Spokane Recycling Co. LLC

- ii. the location where all documents reviewed are currently kept.

3548 Piper Ave, Burnaby, BC V5A A9 Canada

6. **Confidential Information.** The information requested herein must be provided even though the Respondent may contend that it includes confidential information or trade secrets. The Respondent may assert a confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information requested, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e)(7)(E) and (F), and 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). Any documents claimed by the Respondent as CBI must be segregated from non-confidential documents and be clearly marked as "Confidential Business Information." All information claimed to be confidential should be contained on separate sheet(s) and should be clearly identified as "trade secret" or "proprietary" or "company confidential." A confidentiality claim should be supported by the submission of information consistent with 40 C.F.R. Part 2. Information covered by a confidentiality claim will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent, and only by means of the procedures, provided in 40 C.F.R. §§ 2.201-2.311. **If no such claim accompanies the information received by EPA, it may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the Respondent.**
7. **Disclosure to EPA Contractor.** Information submitted in response to this Information Request may be disclosed by EPA to authorized representatives of the United States, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 2.310(h), even if the Respondent asserts that all or part of it is confidential business information. EPA may provide this information to its contractors for the purpose of organizing and/or analyzing the information contained in the responses to this Information Request.
8. **Personal Privacy Information.** Personnel and medical files, and similar files the disclosure of which to the general public may constitute an invasion of privacy, should be segregated from responses, included on separate sheet(s) and/or CD(s), and marked as "Personal Privacy Information". Note, however, that unless prohibited by law, EPA may disclose this information to the general public without further notice.
9. **Objections.** The Respondent must provide responsive information notwithstanding objections to certain questions. To object without providing responsive information may subject the Respondent to the penalties set out in the cover letter.
10. **Privilege.** If a privilege is asserted for any document responsive to this Information Request, identify (see Definitions) the document and provide the basis for assertion. If a privilege exists for only a portion of a document, provide the portion of the document that is not asserted to be privileged, identify the portion that is asserted to be privileged, and provide the basis for asserting privilege. **Please note that regardless of the assertion of any privilege, any facts contained in the document which are responsive to the Information Request must be disclosed in your response.**
11. **Declaration.** The Respondent must complete the enclosed declaration, certifying the accuracy of all statements in the response.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer Each Question Completely. Provide a separate answer to each question and subpart set forth in this Information Request. Incomplete, evasive, or ambiguous answers shall constitute failure to respond to this Information Request and may subject the Respondent to the penalties set out in the cover letter.
2. Response Format and Copies. Provide the responses to this Information Request and at least one copy of all requested documents either electronically or on paper (hard copy). Your submission, whether electronic or hard copy, must include an index that lists all the responsive documents provided, and that indicates where each document is referenced in the written response, and to which question or questions each document is responsive.

If providing your response electronically, it must be submitted on a compact disc in Portable Document Format (PDF) and comply with the following requirements:
 - a. Confidential Business Information (CBI) and personal privacy information should be provided on separate media (e.g., a separate CD) and marked as such to ensure information is appropriately handled and physically separated from the other response information in EPA's files.
 - b. The declaration must be provided in hard copy with an original signature.
 - c. All documents originally smaller than 11 by 17 inches can be submitted electronically; any documents originally larger than 11 by 17 inches must be submitted in hard copy.
 - d. Electronic PDF files must be text-searchable.
 - e. The document index must clearly identify any single electronic document which has been separated into multiple electronic files (because of size limitation or otherwise) and each component file that comprises the full document.
3. Number Each Answer. Number each answer with the number of the question to which it corresponds.
4. Provide the Best Information Available. Provide responses to the best of Respondent's ability, even if the information sought was never put down in writing or if the written documents are no longer available. Seek out responsive information from current and former employees/agents. Submission of cursory responses when other responsive information is available to the Respondent will be considered noncompliance with this Information Request.
5. Identify Information Sources. For each question, identify all persons and documents relied upon for the answer.

DEFINITIONS

All terms not defined herein shall have their ordinary meaning, unless such terms are defined in Section 101 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601, *et seq.*, or Volume 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), in which case such statutory or regulatory definitions shall apply.

The following definitions shall apply to the following words as they appear in this Enclosure:

1. The term "Respondent" shall mean the addressee of this Request, together with the addressee's agents, employees, and contractors.
2. The terms "document" and "documents" shall mean any method of recording, storing, or transmitting information. "Document" shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. writings of any kind, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - i. letters, memoranda, fax transmittals;
 - ii. meeting minutes, telephone records, notebooks;
 - iii. agreements and contracts;
 - iv. reports to shareholders, management, or government agencies;
 - v. transportation manifests; and
 - vi. copies of any document;
 - b. any film, photograph, or sound recording on any type of device;
 - c. any blueprints or drawings; and
 - d. attachments to, or enclosures with, any document.
3. The term "identify" means, with respect to a natural person, to set forth: (a) the person's full name, (b) present or last known business and home addresses and telephone numbers; and (c) present or last known employer (include full name and address) with job title, position, or business.
4. The term "identify" means, with respect to a corporation, partnership, business trust, or other entity, to set forth: (a) its full name; (b) complete street address; (c) legal form (e.g., corporation, partnership, etc.); (d) the state under whose laws the entity was organized; and (e) a brief description of its business.

5. The term "identify" means, with respect to a document, to provide: (a) its customary business description (e.g., letter, invoice); (b) its date; (c) its number if any (e.g., invoice or purchase order number); (d) the identity of the author, addressee, and/or recipient; and (e) a summary of the substance or the subject matter. Alternatively, Respondent may provide a complete copy of the document.
6. The term "material" or "materials" shall mean any and all raw materials, commercial products, wastes, chemicals, substances, or matter of any kind.
7. The "period being investigated" and "the relevant time period" shall mean the date of Respondent's first involvement at the Site to present.
8. The term "property" shall mean any interest in real or personal property whatsoever, including fee interests, leases, licenses, rental, and mineral rights.
9. The "Site" shall mean any or all property or area described as Spokane County Parcels 36165.9016 and 36096.9063.
10. The term "waste" or "wastes" shall mean and include trash, garbage, refuse, by-products, solid waste, hazardous waste, hazardous substances, and pollutants or contaminants, whether solid, liquid, or sludge, including, but not limited to, building debris and asbestos-containing material.
11. The term "business activities" shall mean all actions, endeavors, ventures, or financing arrangements related in any manner whatsoever to the use and development of the Site, including surveying, sampling, grading, documentation, photography, demolition, construction, waste disposal, sales, and renting the property for use by others.

DECLARATION

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am authorized to respond on behalf of Respondent and that the foregoing is complete, true, and correct.

Executed on _____, 2019.

Signature

Type or Print Name

Title

Mailing Address:

